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Message Text

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PAGE 01 RABAT 02123 111442Z
ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 /019 W
----------082076 111453Z /42
R 110910Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5099

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 2123

STADIS//////////////////////////

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, MO
SUBJ: ALLEGED STATE RESTRICTION OF DEA

REF: STATE 83084

1. THERE HAVE BEEN NO INSTANCES AT EMBASSY RABAT OF VETO OR RESTRAINT OF AUTHORIZED DEA ACTIVITIES IN MOROCCO. WE HAVE OF COURSE COORDINATED CLOSELY WITH LOCAL DEA PERSONNEL ON ALL MATTERS OF SENSITIVITY TO MOROCCAN AUTHORITIES, AS WELL AS ON DEALINGS AFFECTING OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRIES. FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN FORMER SAIC HIGDON SUGGESTED PURSUING THE IDEA OF A MEETING OF POLICE OFFICIALS REPRESENTING MOROCCO, GIBRALTAR AND SPAIN TO BE HELD IN SPAIN IN JANUARY 1977 INHORDER TO DEVELOP COORDINATION AGAINST SMUGGLING OF NARCOTICS BY YACHT, THE EMBASSY SENSITIZED THE SAIC TO POLITICAL ASPECTS OF SUCH A MEETING, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF RESTRICTIONS EXISTING BETWEEN GIBRALTAR AND SPAIN. EMBASSY ALSO ASSURED THAT DEA RABAT COORDINATE WITH OTHER INTERESTED POSTS TO PROVIDE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO POSE OBJECTIONS OR OFFER SUGGESTIONS. THIS COORDINATION RESULTED IN A SUCCESSFUL MEETING AND CONSEQUENT TIGHTENED CONTROL OVER HASHISH TRAFFIC BETWEEN MOROCCO AND ITS NEIGHBORS.

2. THE EMBASSY HAS PROVIDED STEADY, ACROSS-THE-BOARD BACKING FOR DEA RABAT SINCE THE LATTER'S INCEPTION IN MID-1975. THE CONFIDENTIAL

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OPENING OF THE OFFICE ITSELF NECESSITATED LENGTHY EMBASSY NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE OF MISGIVINGS ON THE PART OF THE LOCAL SECURITY AUTHORITIES. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE AMBASSADOR HAS TAKEN A STRONG PERSONAL INTEREST IN PROMOTING DRUG CONTROL EFFORTS IN MOROCCO. LIAISON HAS REMAINED CLOSE BETWEEN DEA AND THOSE IN THE EMBASSY RESPONSIBLE FOR DRUG MATTERS. MORE SPECIFICALLY, THE EMBASSY HAS COUNSELED DEA ON ESTABLISHING FRUITFUL WORKING

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RELATIONSHIPS WITH MOROCCANS COUNTERPARTS, HAS PROVIDED SUBSTANTIVE
AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE IN DRAFTING AND TRANSLATING DIPLOMATIC
NOTES AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS, HAS FULLY BACKSTOPPED
DEA-SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR MOROCCAN POLICE
OFFICIALS, AND HAS STOOD READY FOR FRANK AND THOROUGH EXCHANGES
OF VIEWS WITH DEA RABAT AND VISITING DEA OFFICIALS ON SUBJECTS
OF MUTUAL INTEREST. WE INTEND TO CONTINUE TO ACCORD HIGHEST
PRIORITY TO OUR COOPERATIVE EFFORTS IN MOROCCO.
ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 11 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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